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ABSTRACT

This guide, written in a question-and-answer format, provides basic information on bilingualism and raises practical issues in plain, clear, and direct language. It is written for both monolingual speakers who want to consider bilingualism and bilingual speakers who want to become better informed. Many of the ideas and perceptions in the first edition have been extended and enriched in this second edition. Revised and extended topics include the following: the advantages of bilingualism, language mixing, trilingualism, and identity problems. In addition, a range of new material has been added, including the influences of the World Wide Web and the Internet on bilingualism; the benefits for children who have a less well developed second language, mixed- language marriages, and language strategies with an adopted child. The book is divided into six sections covering questions relating to family, language development, language problems, reading and writing, education (including subsections on bilingual education, achievement and underachievement, language in the classroom), and summary and concluding questions that do not fit neatly into the other categories. In addition to numerous tables, figures, charts, photographs, and diagrams, an epilogue, glossary, and index are also included. (KFT)

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